

REMARKS

The present Amendment provides express reference to priority Applications in the Specification.

The new claims mirror original claims 1-17, which have been canceled without prejudice of or disclaimer as to their subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to file continuations or divisionals on this or any subject matter canceled during prosecution by way of the present Preliminary Amendment. The new claims are submitted for the Examiner's convenience and merely place the claims in better form for examination. As the new claims are supported by at least the original claims, the new claims are not believed to add any prohibited new matter.

The amendments to the specification likewise merely correct notation placing the scientific notation in standard format as would be evident to an artisan of ordinary skill.

Again, no prohibited new matter is believed to have been added.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: October 22, 2003

By: Deborah H. Yellen

Reg. No. 95,904 for

Mercedes K. Meyer, Ph.D., Esq.

Registration No. 44,939

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620